

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lori A. Gordon on 1/07/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 13-14 and 20 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 18-19 and 26-27 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 19, it is allowed for the reasons, "In contrast, the subject matter of claim 19 avoids the need to transmit return schedules to all transceivers on the network. This is achieved by associating a forward channel with a set of preferred channels. Thus, a particular forward channel does not contain return schedules for all return channels, but instead contains return schedules for the subset of return channels that are associated with that forward channel", as stated in applicant's response filed on 3/17/08 page 8, .

Regarding claim 26, the prior art fails to teach "predicting, on the basis of said analyzing, a future demand for capacity in said channel by said first transceiver; and transmitting to said first transceiver an allocation signal indicating an allocation in said channel determined according to said

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predicted demand, wherein said allocation is made independently from a request for allocation by said first transceiver.”, as cited in the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tu Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-7883.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Urban, can be reached at (571) 272-7899. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Tu X Nguyen/

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